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Dig-It Excavating LLC



**Fort Wayne
Street Department**



David Coultas

**A message
from Brandeis
Machinery &
Supply Company**



Dear Valued Customer:

I sincerely hope you had a terrific year and are looking forward to success in 2025. As we head into the new year, don't forget to prepare for the frigid temperatures. We offer five essential steps for winterizing your machines, whether you are storing them for the winter or maintaining production in the cold weather.

MINExpo 2024 was a great success. I hope you were able to attend. Inside, you will find a recap that summarizes Komatsu's commitment to this critical industry that plays a strong role in so many aspects of our daily lives.

This issue is also a real testament to the breadth of Komatsu's equipment lineup as well as the support programs it offers. From an equipment standpoint, there are articles on machinery geared toward mining, demolition and construction. If you work in any of those industries, as well as others such as waste, scrap and forestry, Komatsu has you covered.

Plus, Komatsu Care handles your service needs. To learn more, read the article that highlights the various programs available and how to choose which one is right for you.

You can also gain valuable insights on the 2024 Workforce Survey, which was conducted by the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) and Arcoro. It delves into how the nation's current level of investment in construction workforce education and training programs is having a real and measurable negative impact on the country's ability to build infrastructure and other construction projects.

As always, if there is anything we can do for you, please feel free to contact one of our branch locations covering Kentucky, Indiana and West Virginia.

Sincerely,
Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company



David Coultas,
President

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Creating a legacy in excavation

Dig-It Excavating LLC blends tradition with technology to tackle complex commercial projects



Heath Hager,
Owner

Founded in 2018, Dig-It Excavating LLC has quickly carved out a strong presence in the construction industry across central Kentucky. Based out of Frankfort and led by Heath Hager, the company began as a one-man operation with little more than a rented skid-steer and a dream.

"I grew up in eastern Kentucky, surrounded by the machines of the coal mines, and they just amazed me," Hager recalled. "Watching equipment move mountains as a kid, I knew I'd someday work in construction. Now, my sandbox is just a bit bigger."

Over time, Hager's vision evolved from small residential projects to more complex commercial jobs that required a versatile skill set and an adaptable approach. The company's

early years weren't without challenges; Hager launched Dig-It Excavating during late 2018, just before the global pandemic.

"It was a risky time, and I thought COVID might end my dream," Hager admitted. "But, construction stayed strong, and it ended up catapulting us forward. We took advantage of that period to grow and learn."

***"We're good at solving problems
and dealing with things on the
fly as they come."***

*-Heath Hager,
Owner*

From those early days, Dig-It Excavating has focused on building a reputation for reliability and hard work. Each project has been a stepping stone toward Hager's long-term vision.

"We started out with a wheelbarrow and a shovel," Hager reflected. "Now, six years later, we've come a long way, but we're still growing and constantly improving our craft. We're good at solving problems and dealing with things on the fly as they come."

Dig-It Excavating's team culture also plays a critical role in its success. The company has maintained a low turnover rate, and Hager takes pride in the loyalty and expertise of his crew.

"We have a strong team with years of experience," Hager emphasized. "Many of our guys have been with me since the beginning. They know how we work, understand our standards, and adapt quickly to complex projects."

Commercial project precision

Dig-It Excavating initially completed residential jobs but has since focused on small to medium-sized commercial projects. The company recently took on the construction of a new hangar for the Blue Grass Airport in Lexington, a high-profile project that required precision and coordination.

"Working at the airport has been exciting and challenging," commented Hager. "It's a fast-paced project with several moving parts, but we're hitting milestones, making good progress, and learning a lot along the way."

Customer snapshot

Company: Dig-It Excavating LLC

Location: Frankfort, Kentucky

Employees: Approximately 12

Established: 2018

Area of expertise: Small to medium-sized commercial projects

Komatsu equipment: D39PXi and D61PXi IMC dozers; PC55MR-5, PC88 and PC238USLC excavators; and WA270 wheel loader

Komatsu technology: Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) and Smart Construction 3D Machine Guidance

With a Komatsu D39PXi Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) dozer, an operator cuts a pad to grade for a new airport hangar.

▶ VIDEO





Dig-It Excavating uses a Komatsu WA270 wheel loader to swiftly move material around the airport hangar project.

Dig-It Excavating handles every aspect of a project, from underground utilities to final landscaping.

"We consider ourselves pretty turnkey for the size of projects we take on," Hager noted. "Whether it's sanitary, storm, water lines or pipework, we try to do as much or as little as the contractor needs. If there's equipment involved, we find a way to get it done. We seem to gravitate toward the more complex jobs. It's rewarding when you get them done."

"The equipment's GPS can turn a good operator into a great one."

*-Heath Hager,
Owner*

This versatility extends to the company's use of machinery. On the airport project, Dig-It Excavating relied heavily on a range of Komatsu machines, including a D39PXi Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) dozer, a D61PXi IMC dozer, a PC238USLC tight tail swing excavator, and a recently acquired WA270 wheel loader.

"The WA270 has been a fantastic addition," Hager stated. "It's versatile, and with the right person on it, that loader can handle nearly every aspect of a site, from moving pipe to packing rock and hauling dirt. It's kept us efficient and on schedule."



An operator uses a Komatsu PC238USLC tight tail swing excavator equipped with Smart Construction 3D Machine Guidance to cut out a retention pond.

Technology has also helped improve precision and productivity. The Komatsu D39PXi and D61PXi IMC dozers and the Komatsu PC238USLC excavator equipped with Smart Construction 3D Machine Guidance bring a new level of accuracy to Dig-It Excavating's work.

"Having the grade in the cab with you changes the game," Hager explained. "It cuts down on labor costs and keeps us from having to send someone into the trenches to check grade, which is great from a safety standpoint. The equipment's GPS can turn a good operator into a great one."



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Continued...

'It's good to have a team of support behind you'

... continued

Trusted partnership

Dig-It Excavating has relied heavily on the support of Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company to stay on top of emerging technology.

"Brandeis Machinery always has our back on parts and maintenance," Hager commented. "They worked hand in hand with us to get the

aftermarket GPS kit installed on the PC238. It's good to have a team of support behind you that's there when you need them."

Dig-It Excavating's relationship with Brandeis Machinery is rooted in trust, especially with its sales representative, Alex Rains.

"Brandeis Machinery always has our back on parts and maintenance."

*-Heath Hager,
Owner*

By the numbers

- 6 years in business
- 2 Komatsu Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) dozers
- 10-11 field crew members



(L-R) Dig-It Excavating's Keegan O'Neil, Brandeis Machinery's Kent Phelps and Alex Rains, and Dig-It Excavating's Heath Hager discuss a project.

Using a base and a rover, the Dig-It Excavating team can easily and precisely map out locations for outfalls.



"I'm not usually a fan of salespeople, but Alex is different," Hager said with a laugh. "We've become close friends. He's always been there for me, not just with equipment, but also with advice on business challenges. He's been a really good teammate for our company. Brandeis Machinery and Alex have been a huge part of our success."

Future-driven foundations

As Dig-It Excavating looks to the future, Hager wants to continue blending old-school values with new-age technology.

"We try to mix technology on the job sites with doing things based on relationships and handshakes every chance we get," noted Hager. "Construction's kind of turned into a different world, but it's much more enjoyable when you can do it with people who you enjoy working with, whether it be the customer or vendors — Brandeis Machinery included. We're big on loyalty, so if you're always there for us, we give that in return. It's just so much easier to do business with friends and do things based on relationships more so than contracts."

Moving forward, Dig-It Excavating is ready for any challenge that awaits.

"If we say we're going to do something, we'll find a way, no matter how complex," promised Hager. "Sometimes it might feel impossible, but we have a team willing to do what it takes to make it happen. It's all about being transparent, reliable and getting the job done."

With a strong foundation of skilled operators, trusted partners and a forward-thinking approach to technology, Dig-It Excavating is set to continue its growth across Kentucky. ■

**The opinions expressed here are from the end user as quoted. The results described herein are those of these end users under certain conditions. Individual results may vary.*



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Building stronger streets

Fort Wayne Street Department relies on innovative equipment and partnerships to maintain and expand city roads



Shawn Rogers,
Milling Crew
Supervisor

The Fort Wayne Street Department plays a crucial role in maintaining the city's infrastructure, ensuring safe and accessible streets across Fort Wayne's 1,800 lane miles. From sidewalk to sidewalk, the department handles an impressive array of responsibilities, including milling, paving, plowing and mowing.

"Our focus is on complete maintenance," stated Shawn Rogers, a supervisor for the department's milling crew. "We're here to keep the streets in top shape, from the sidewalk edges to the curbs. We adapt to seasonal needs, whether it's picking up leaves in the fall, patching in the winter or full resurfacing in the summer."

With Indiana's dynamic weather conditions, the Fort Wayne Street Department faces numerous challenges year-round.

"One day, we're dealing with icy roads, and the next, we're preparing for the heat," Rogers

shared. "We need equipment and a team that can handle everything from frigid cold to scorching summer days."

Precision milling and paving

During the summer, a typical day in the milling division involves preparing streets for new asphalt, a process that demands precision and coordination.

"We check the street for any type of structures, such as manholes, water valves and catch basins, that the milling machine cannot go through," explained Rogers. "To do that, we usually walk the street with a metal detector and a paint can, and we're painting out all the structures, so they're visible to the operators."

To handle the scale and complexity of its work, the Fort Wayne Street Department relies on specialized equipment, including WIRTGEN W 150 CFi and WIRTGEN W 50 Ri cold milling machines.

***"The WIRTGEN W 150
CFi is our powerhouse."***

*- Shawn Rogers,
Milling Crew Supervisor*

Customer snapshot

Company: Fort Wayne Street Department

Location: Fort Wayne, Indiana

Employees: 97

Area of expertise: Street maintenance

WIRTGEN GROUP equipment: WIRTGEN W 150 CFi cold milling machine, WIRTGEN W 50 Ri cold milling machine, and VÖGELE SUPER 1703-3i wheeled paver

"The WIRTGEN W 150 CFi is our powerhouse," Rogers declared. "It's large enough to tackle major stretches and take out old asphalt efficiently. That machine alone covers about 95% of our milling work."

Complementing the W 150 CFi is the WIRTGEN W 50 Ri, a smaller, more agile machine the department recently acquired. This addition allows the team to work around structures that the larger machine can't easily navigate.

"The W 50 Ri is our go-to for tight spaces," Rogers emphasized. "Its smaller size lets us work around manholes and other obstacles. We've already seen an improvement on speed with the W 50. Adding the machine is a huge time savings."

The W 50 Ri has brought significant benefits, not only in terms of maneuverability but also in enhancing the quality of roadwork.

The Fort Wayne Street Department relies on its WIRTGEN W 150 CFi cold milling machine to complete projects across the city.



► VIDEO



The milling crew paves a road with a VÖGELE SUPER 1703-3i wheeled paver.

"This machine is so precise, we can cut right up to structures without damaging the surrounding area," Rogers highlighted. "That accuracy means we're leaving the road in better shape."

In addition to the milling machines, the Fort Wayne Street Department recently added a VÖGELE SUPER 1703-3i 8-foot class wheeled paver to its lineup, streamlining its paving operations.

"We bought the VÖGELE last year, and it's a good machine," commented Rogers. "We're using it every day, and it's getting the job done."

"The W 50 Ri is our go-to for tight spaces."

*- Shawn Rogers,
Milling Crew Supervisor*

The Fort Wayne Street Department is constantly exploring new ways to utilize its equipment and improve efficiency.

"We're always finding ways to use our machinery for smaller repairs, like fixing minor bumps in the road," Rogers noted. "The equipment lets us be precise, so we can



The VÖGELE SUPER 1703-3i wheeled paver is in the 8-foot class.

address issues quickly. That adaptability means we can fix issues without a full resurfacing."

Reliable partnership

The Fort Wayne Street Department's partnership with Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company has been essential in maintaining the department's productivity.

"Support from Brandeis has been wonderful," said Rogers. "They're just a phone call away,



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Continued ...

'It's been an awesome working relationship with Brandeis'

... continued

and any time we need parts or help, they're quick to respond. Their reliability makes a real difference when we're on tight deadlines. Everything that we've bought from Brandeis has worked out well for us. Brandeis also provides training on the machines. They show me everything that I need to know. It's been an awesome working relationship with Brandeis."

Rogers emphasized the value of Brandeis Machinery's ongoing support, particularly from sales representative Tim Kreider and product support representative (PSR) Brian Whitsitt. The knowledge and accessibility of Brandeis Machinery's team have proven invaluable to the Fort Wayne Street Department's milling crew, especially during unexpected equipment issues.

By the numbers

- **1,800** lane miles in Fort Wayne
- **6-7** operators on the Fort Wayne Street Department's milling crew
- **95%** of Fort Wayne's milling work is completed with the WIRTGEN W 150 CFI cold milling machine, according to the Fort Wayne Street Department

"Support from Brandeis has been wonderful."

- Shawn Rogers,
Milling Crew Supervisor

"If I have a question, I can reach out to someone who knows our machines inside and out," Rogers commented. "It doesn't matter what time of day it is — they'll answer. It's great having that expertise available whenever we need it."

Supporting Fort Wayne's growth

As Fort Wayne expands, the department's partnership with Brandeis Machinery will remain vital.

"Our city just keeps growing," stated Rogers. "Our equipment from Brandeis Machinery is helping us keep up with those changes. We know they're here to support us." ■

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The Fort Wayne Street Department's David Wagner (left) and Shawn Rogers (right) receive support from Brandeis Machinery's Brian Whitsitt (center left) and Tim Kreider (center right).

An operator precisely cuts out a manhole with a WIRTGEN W 50 Ri cold milling machine.



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Customer connections on the green

Brandeis Machinery's annual golf tournament blends friendly competition with relationship building among customers and industry partners

Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company held its annual customer appreciation golf tournament at the Woodland Country Club in Carmel, Indiana. The event, which has become a highlight for many in the industry, brought together over 100 customers across 29 four-person teams, along with manufacturer representatives, for a day of networking, friendly competition and relaxation. The event is part of Brandeis Machinery's ongoing effort to show appreciation for its customers and strengthen business relationships outside of the usual workday environment.

"We're excited to have everyone out here because with our busy schedules, it's tough to make time for quality interactions with our customers," said Jacob Hopper, Regional Sales Manager, Brandeis Machinery. "This golf tournament allows us to step outside the daily grind and spend meaningful time with people we do business with. It's a great opportunity to connect and build relationships."

The tournament began with a shotgun start and included several competition holes as well as a post-tournament reception. Golfers had the chance to compete in long-drive, closest-to-the-pin and longest-putt competitions, which added a layer of excitement to the event.

"It's a gorgeous day, and we're playing well," declared Blake Morris, Project Manager for Globe Asphalt Paving. "It's nice to meet new people and catch up with Brandeis Machinery's staff. The tournament is always a great time."

An attendee prepares to hit a golf ball.



Beyond the fun and games, the event holds deeper significance for the relationships between Brandeis Machinery and its customers.

Joe Czarnecki, Regional Manager for Ward Stone, spoke highly of the value of these gatherings, commenting, "This is one of my favorite golf outings of the year. It's not just about the golf; it's about the camaraderie and relationships we've built over the years with Brandeis. It's a pleasure to be a customer of theirs."

As the day wound down, the tournament ended with a reception where prizes were awarded for both individual competitions and team performances. Prizes for the top three teams capped off a successful day, as participants enjoyed refreshments and further mingling.

Hopper extended his gratitude to all who contributed to the event, stating, "A special thanks to all of our vendors who sponsored the event and all of our customers who took the time to join us. We couldn't do this without them." ■



Jacob Hopper,
Regional
Sales Manager,
Brandeis Machinery



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(L-R) The first-place team includes Cooper Tarter, Dave Price, Devin Foster and Glen Price.

An attendee putts for a birdie in a four-person best-ball at Brandeis Machinery's annual golf tournament.



Worker shortage impacts building industry

Fully 94% of construction firms report having a hard time finding employees, undermining efforts to build infrastructure and other projects

According to a recent survey,¹ the nation's current level of investment in construction workforce education and training programs is having a real and measurable negative impact on the country's ability to build infrastructure and other construction projects. The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) and Arcoro, a leading HR technology company supporting the construction industry, conducted the workforce survey. Fully 94% of contractors reported they are having a hard time filling open positions. Construction officials called on federal leaders to adopt more robust workforce policies.

"The most likely path to addressing construction workforce shortages is for the federal government to adopt better workforce policies," said Jeff Shoaf, AGC's Chief Executive Officer, when the report was released earlier this year. "Federal officials need to support, instead of undermine, our national infrastructure and economic development policies."

Firms reported having trouble filling at least some positions — particularly among the craft workforce that performs the bulk of on-site construction work. Association officials noted that 28% of contractors reported having at least 11 unfilled craft positions as of June 30, 2024.

According to AGC, the survey shows workforce shortages are impacting contractors' ability to

build projects. More than half (54%) of contractors reported experiencing project delays because of workforce shortages. Labor shortages are more likely to cause project delays than other causes, like supply chain challenges and shipping delays.

"The most likely path to addressing construction workforce shortages is for the federal government to adopt better workforce policies."

*- Jeff Shoaf,
CEO of AGC*

More training investment needed

One reason it is so difficult to find people is that there is a need for increased investment in construction workforce training and education. Shoaf noted that a report² the association recently released in partnership with the Progressive Policy Institute found that federal officials invest four times more each year in encouraging students to earn four-year degrees than in supporting workforce development programs for fields like construction.

Construction officials noted that 62% of respondents reported that available candidates were not qualified to work in the industry because they lacked the required skills or certificates. Also, 43% reported that employees lacked required documentation like a driver's license, work permit or clean background check. Half of firms reported that new hires fail to show up or quit shortly after starting.

Contractors are taking steps to overcome labor shortages. According to the survey, 91% of firms reported increasing base pay rates for hourly construction positions during the past year. In addition, 57% of firms reported adding online strategies to recruit younger workers, and 51% have engaged with career-building programs like high schools or training facilities.

Contractors are also increasing investments in internal training to address candidates' lack of hard and soft skills. Almost half (42%) of firms reported initiating or increasing spending on training and professional development programs to address workforce shortages. Also, 26% reported increased use of learning programs with strong online or video components.



Firms are having trouble filling open positions, particularly among the craft workforce that performs the bulk of on-site construction work.



According to the 2024 Workforce Survey,¹ 25% of firms are using technology to deliver worker training programs.

The survey also shows that construction firms are using human resources technology to address workforce challenges. Association officials noted that one in four firms reported using technology to deliver worker training programs. Meanwhile, 34% of respondents have partnered with a third-party firm to establish training courses and professional development.

Taking steps to help

Shoaf noted that the association is taking various steps to help the industry cope with labor shortages. AGC has partnered with its chapters to run more than a dozen targeted digital advertising campaigns to reach and recruit new workers. The association has created recruiting resources for member firms and its chapters, and it regularly hosts virtual and in-person gatherings to share workforce development success stories.

In addition, AGC chapters run a host of training and recruitment programs. They have partnered with local school districts to create new construction academies and pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship programs. AGC chapters also build and support networks of career and technical education teachers and host dozens of construction career fairs each year, among many other workforce efforts.

However, association officials said more must be done to address construction workforce shortages. They called on Congress and the White House to significantly boost funding for construction-focused education and training programs. They urged Congress to allocate

more funds for workforce training as part of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and to boost funding for in-school construction programs as part of the Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act.

"Considering all that this industry and our association are doing to prepare, recruit and retain new workers, we are confident that better federal workforce policies will make a meaningful and lasting difference for the better when it comes to the construction workforce," Shoaf added.

AGC and Arcoro conducted the 2024 Workforce Survey in late July and early August. Nearly 1,500 firms completed the survey from a broad cross-section of the construction industry, including union and open shop firms of all sizes. The 2024 Workforce Survey is the association's 12th annual workforce-related survey. ■

By the numbers

According to the 2024 Workforce Survey:¹

- **94%** of firms are having a hard time filling open positions
- **54%** of firms are experiencing project delays due to workforce shortages
- **57%** of firms have added online strategies to recruit younger workers

1. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/users/user21902/2024_Workforce_Survey_National_FINALIZED.pdf

2. https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/Files/Communications/PPI_AG%20Workforce%20Report_Final_EMBARGO.pdf

Brandeis Machinery expands Paducah branch

Enhanced facilities and inventory boost service for rock quarry and construction customers



Chad Porter,
Machine Sales
Representative,
Brandeis Machinery



Bob Morris,
Regional
Operations Manager,
Brandeis Machinery



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Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company has expanded its Paducah, Kentucky, branch to keep up with a growing customer base and provide improved service to local industries, particularly the rock quarry sector. This facility, established as a satellite branch of the Evansville, Indiana, location in 1998, has experienced continuous growth and needed more space and updated facilities to meet the demands of its growing business. The Paducah branch covers western Kentucky and parts of southern Illinois, supporting nearly 450 customers across diverse sectors.

"Our growth has been remarkable," reflected Chad Porter, Machine Sales Representative at Brandeis Machinery's Paducah branch. "When we started, it was a small satellite branch with just a few parts and a couple of technicians. Today, we have a 21-person team, a larger warehouse and upgraded facilities. It's all about keeping up with the needs of our loyal customers."

The expansion includes a nearly 5,000-square-foot warehouse, which allows Brandeis Machinery to stock a greater variety of parts locally. This improvement significantly reduces downtime for customers, ensuring that equipment repairs and replacements can be handled more efficiently. The Paducah branch has also added a second overhead crane, making it easier for technicians to work on heavy machinery.

"The biggest benefit for our customers is availability," Porter explained. "If a part is unavailable for days, it costs our customers time and money. By expanding our parts inventory and facilities, we're giving our customers quicker access to the materials they need to keep their operations running smoothly."

Brandeis Machinery's commitment to service goes beyond inventory. The expansion also included upgrades to employee facilities, ensuring the team has a comfortable and efficient working environment. Updates to offices, restrooms and break areas are all part of the company's effort to create a workplace that employees can enjoy and feel proud of. According to Porter, investing in the employees' environment reflects Brandeis Machinery's values.

"Our leadership didn't just focus on customer-facing improvements; they also made sure we have a space we enjoy working in," Porter said. "They truly treat us like family, which is why so many of us have been with Brandeis for years. They really go above and beyond to make sure everyone has the tools that they need, the training that they need, and the support that they need. When we're supported, we're able to pass that support on to our customers."

Supporting local quarries

Bob Morris, Regional Operations Manager for Brandeis Machinery's Western Region, described the expansion as a necessary response to growth in the rock quarry industry. The branch's customer base in this sector has continued to expand, demanding a facility that could support a higher volume of inventory and service needs. Morris emphasized that the expansion has been carefully planned to ensure that Brandeis Machinery can meet customer demands for years to come.

"This area has significant demand, especially from the rock quarry segment," Morris emphasized. "We've expanded to support that demand and ensure that we can be proactive about meeting customer needs. The future looks promising, and this expansion positions us well to serve it."

"At the end of the day, our goal is to keep customers profitable by reducing their downtime and delivering the best possible service," added Porter. "We take a lot of pride in going above and beyond to make that happen."

With the expanded Paducah branch, Brandeis Machinery continues to show its dedication to both its customers and its employees, making investments that promise long-term benefits for the entire region. This growth enables the branch to remain a reliable partner to local industries, providing parts, support and a commitment to operational efficiency that customers have come to rely on. ■

Brandeis Machinery's expanded Paducah, Kentucky, branch includes a nearly 5,000-square-foot parts warehouse and a second overhead crane, among other additions and improvements.

▶ VIDEO





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Are you prepared for low temperatures?

Five essential steps for winterizing your machines to keep them running strong in frigid temps

For most locations, cold weather has the potential to impact job sites. Preparation is the key to protecting your equipment investment. Whether you run your machines in frigid temperatures and want to continue reliable production or store them to protect against the elements, follow these five steps for winterizing success.

Choose the right fluids and purge

Switching to a winter-blended fuel helps protect your engine and its components as temperatures go down. Traditional diesel tends to gel and develop condensation in colder temperatures and can freeze if there is too much water in it. High water content can also cause filters to freeze, expand and burst. Fuel tank water and sediment should always be drained off.

Newer machines that use diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) need special attention, whether you're using them or storing them long term because

DEF freezes below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Before shutting down for the day—or for months—the automatic DEF line must be purged to ensure that it is empty. This helps prevent expansion that could damage system components.

All fluid levels should be checked consistently to ensure they are at proper levels. Use a low-viscosity oil and coolant with a freeze-level protection rating to help avoid major damage to the engine or other systems at low temperatures. A block heater is another consideration when parking overnight.

Keep batteries charged

Cold weather stresses batteries, so inspect for damage before winter usage and replace, if necessary. If you plan to use your equipment, make sure the battery is fully charged. Check that the water and acid levels are properly filled if the battery is not sealed.



Preparation is important to maintain your equipment's production during the cold winter.



Inspect your machines before operating in all conditions, especially in cold weather. Pay close attention to hoses, belts, fluids, batteries and tracks.

If you park your equipment long term, check the water or acid levels. Maintenance-free batteries should be fine. The battery disconnect switch must be turned off when storing a machine for a long time. To prolong its life, consider removing the battery and putting it in a temperature-controlled climate.

Visually inspect before startup

Before operating, thoroughly inspect the machine to check for irregularities and address them before starting up to prevent potential damage. Let the machine warm up to the proper operating temperature and cycle through functions to allow fluids to move before doing any work.

Keep track of the undercarriage

If your machine has an undercarriage, pay special attention to it during cold conditions. Brush off any snow that may have accumulated overnight or during breaks before entering the machine to reduce the chance of slipping when entering the cab.

It's especially vital to keep tracks cleaned as frozen mud and debris cause problems with the undercarriage, including seals and the housings of the final drive. It prevents the

rollers from turning during travel, which causes flat spots on the carrier and the bottom rollers.

Extremely cold temperatures can cause tracks to freeze to the ground. To prevent this, park your machine on timbers, small pieces of wood in forest areas or another barrier when not operating, if possible.

Don't overlook the cab

Cabs are often an afterthought when it comes to cold temperatures, but they shouldn't be. To keep operators comfortable, ensure the heater is properly working. If your machines have heated seats, check to see if they work.

When storing the machine, thoroughly clean the cab and remove any debris, especially food-related items. Inspect it to ensure there are no holes or missing filters and the doors are sealed properly. Doing so helps keep pests such as rodents from nesting and potentially destroying the operator's cab.

If you follow these five proactive steps, you can have the confidence and peace of mind that your valuable equipment investments will perform and stay in top shape when the thermostat dips. ■

Developed with contractor input

PC210LCi-11 IMC 2.0 excavator helps control for overdigging and delivers versatility in a compact, easily transported size

Are you looking to help lessen the skill gap between new and experienced operators and quickly support your bottom line? Komatsu's Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) is designed to do just that. IMC is part of the company's suite of Smart Construction products, services and digital solutions incorporating advanced, proprietary machine technology. Developed with input from leading construction companies, IMC gives contractors sophisticated,

productivity-enhancing automation along with cutting-edge job site design.

Komatsu's IMC 2.0 lineup includes the 165-horsepower PC210LCi-11 excavator. A smart choice for contractors who need a versatile solution that still offers an excellent range, the PC210LCi-11 is Komatsu's smallest IMC excavator. It is designed for digging in exacting applications such as precise footings, retention ponds and utility work. Its factory-integrated system helps control for over-excavation and empowers operators to dig straight to grade quickly and accurately.

"It's great for a range of applications, and it especially shines in utility work where precise trenching is involved," said Nathaniel Waldschmidt, Product Manager, Excavators, Komatsu. "Our technology won't let operators dig past target elevation, so having to put material back or replace it with expensive fill can be virtually eliminated. That also helps newer operators get to grade fast and confidently."

Automated features

Operators can finish grades quick and with precision by using bucket angle hold control, which automatically holds the bucket angle to the design surface during arm operation. This enables finished grading using only arm input.

"With bucket angle hold, they can curl the bucket all the way in and use the heel to really smooth out the final pass," explained Waldschmidt. "That just helps increase the ease of operation and helps improve final grading accuracy."

The PC210LCi-11's auto tilt bucket control assists the operator in aligning the bucket parallel with the slope, so finish grading can be accomplished without having to align the machine with the target surface.

"You can run a tilt bucket and increase efficiency because the bucket will tilt automatically directly to the plane of the design surface," stated Waldschmidt. "It makes complex grading a lot faster and easier." ■



The Komatsu PC210LCi-11 Intelligent Machine Control (IMC) 2.0 excavator features bucket angle hold control and auto tilt bucket control, which help operators finish grading efficiently.

Quick Specs	
Model PC210LCi-11	Horsepower 165 HP
Operating Weight 51,397-53,882 lbs.	Bucket Capacity 0.66-1.57 yd ³



Technology to help you work smarter



Maximize productivity on your job sites with advanced automation technology. **Komatsu's Intelligent Machine Control (IMC)** can help you get the most from your machines, crew and carefully designed plans.

- Get new operators up to speed quickly
- Go from mass excavating to finished grading faster than ever
- Helps eliminate potential damage to design surface
- Empower operators to work efficiently, pass after pass

Discover more ► komatsu.com/imc

KOMATSU

Extended warranty coverage options

Komatsu Care programs help you efficiently determine total cost of ownership during your machinery's lifetime

Making variable costs associated with total cost of ownership (TCO) — repair and maintenance, fuel, hourly wages — predictable can help you budget and avoid large, unplanned expenses. It also contributes to efficiency in estimating, bidding and determining operating expenses. One way to support effective cost management is to purchase an extended warranty and extended periodic maintenance with fixed costs for maintenance and repairs.

Machinery comes with a standard warranty that covers a certain number of hours or years. Once the machine hits those marks, the owner covers any other, and often unpredictable, expenses. Extended warranties offer the advantage of, for a relatively nominal monthly charge, the peace of mind that when service or repairs are needed, they will be covered, mitigating against being hit with a potentially big bill.

Komatsu offers several options, including Komatsu Care Plus for extended maintenance for up to 10,000 hours, Komatsu Care Plus II

for extended maintenance and repair for up to 12,000 hours, and Komatsu Care Advantage for extended repair coverage. Three options are available with Komatsu Care Advantage: Powertrain, Powertrain Plus and Premier. Services are performed by Komatsu-certified technicians using Komatsu Genuine Parts and fluids.

“Most Komatsu construction machines have Komatsu Care Complimentary that covers scheduled services for the first 2,000 hours or three years, as well as two diesel particulate filter exchanges,” said Ryan Boekeloo, Manager, Aftermarket Contract Business, Komatsu. “Komatsu Care Plus extends that coverage after the complimentary period. Komatsu Care Plus II provides the same with the addition of repairs for further certainty, and it is currently our most utilized option. It’s geared toward those that want maintenance and repairs covered but will handle taking care of consumable items themselves.”

Komatsu Care Plus III is an option for larger wheel loaders, rigid frame trucks and dozers.

Komatsu Care Complimentary	Komatsu Care Plus	Komatsu Care Plus II	Komatsu Care Plus III	Komatsu Care Advantage
<i>Complimentary maintenance</i>	<i>Extended maintenance</i>	<i>Extended maintenance and repair</i>	<i>Extended maintenance, repair and consumables</i>	<i>Extended repair coverage</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Major component assurance• 100% core guarantee• Special financing• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• Genuine parts• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Comprehensive repair coverage• Diagnostics included• Competitive pricing• Special financing• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automatic scheduling• Maintenance parts and fluids• Travel and labor included• Genuine parts• KOWA oil analysis• 50-point inspection• Service record history• Comprehensive repair coverage• Consumables• Diagnostics included• Competitive pricing• Cost-per-hour billing• Eligible for Komatsu Certified	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Customizable repair coverage• Powertrain — powertrain components only• Powertrain Plus — powertrain and hydraulic systems• Premier — comprehensive machine coverage• Travel and labor included• Genuine parts• Diagnostics included• Service record history• Special financing

Distributor representatives can help you determine which Komatsu Care plan is right for your operation. Several options are available to cover maintenance, repairs or both.



Komatsu Care services are performed by Komatsu-certified technicians who use Komatsu Genuine Parts as well as fluids.

This program is designed for businesses such as quarries and mines that keep equipment for 30,000 hours before rebuilding or taking it out of service. Like the other Komatsu Care programs, it covers scheduled maintenance and repairs. Komatsu Care Plus III is designed to be even more comprehensive because it includes brakes, hoses, pins and bushings, and the cost is based on utilization.

Cost-per-hour billing plan

The cost-per-hour billing plan is another option that can help you take control of your ownership and operating costs as machines age. The plan provides unlimited scheduled maintenance services at a fixed rate for 60 months.

This subscription-style billing plan gives customers a cash-flow-friendly alternative and lets them extend coverage beyond a warranty period. There is a nominal upfront opt-in charge. Customers then set their cost per hour for 60 months and are billed based on the machine's monthly usage. Price protection is built in as the rate doesn't change.

Benefits of cost-per-hour billing include:

- Unlimited hours
- Up to 60 months of coverage
- Price protection

- Total periodic maintenance (oils, filters, labor, travel and oil sampling)
- Monthly payments based on machine utilization reported in Komtrax
- National coverage

Usage is tracked with Komatsu's Komtrax telematics system. Added peace of mind comes in knowing that, as with other Komatsu Care offerings, the services performed with Komatsu Care Plus under the cost-per-hour billing arrangement are done by certified technicians.

This billing arrangement is restricted to current production models such as -11 excavators. Hourly rates vary depending on the machine. Once the initial 60-month period ends, customers may opt in again at the current rate. Customers can cancel their subscriptions any time after 1,000 hours and two completed services without penalties or fees.

"Customers often add coverage with the initial machine purchase, making the transition from initial Komatsu Care to their extended program part of the purchase price and seamless," said Boekeloo. "They can add on later, too. The coverage they choose will depend on a few factors, so we recommend consulting with their distributor representatives to get the right one for them." ■

A sustainable future together

Cutting-edge equipment and technology that balance productivity and sustainability showcased during MINExpo 2024

The theme of MINExpo 2024 was “A sustainable future together.” With one of the show’s largest and most comprehensive booths, Komatsu shared its vision for sustainable mine optimization, which has been born out of a collaboration with customers to unlock the full potential of Komatsu’s solutions and technologies.

Komatsu featured equipment, technology and service solutions that addressed sustainability and electrification, surface mining, underground hard rock mining, underground soft rock mining, blasthole drilling, quarry and aggregate mining and crushing. In addition to highlighting the electrification of mining equipment and autonomous machines, Komatsu showcased connected and interoperable solutions, teleremote operations, telematics and machine health data, digitalization, smart solutions and more.

“We’re excited to show our vision for sustainable mining and optimization of mines, and how we intend to work with customers to help them tackle key challenges in their mines,” said Peter Salditt, President and CEO, Komatsu Mining Corp. “There is a tremendous effort, will and interest in looking at sustainable mining and decreasing our carbon footprint. We feel that we are particularly well-placed to address electrification as many of our products have been electrified for a long time.”

Electrification is a critical step toward reducing emissions from mining equipment and helping mining organizations meet their sustainability goals. Komatsu is committed to helping mining organizations reduce their environmental impacts by developing a range of products and solutions designed to meet their needs wherever they are on the path to sustainability. The company’s electrification initiatives are built on its decades of experience in electrifying equipment for its electric drive trucks and loaders and fully electric underground soft rock mining machines. Komatsu is now expanding on that knowledge to develop electrification solutions for all areas of mining.

Innovative machines

Featured products during MINExpo included the PC4000-11E electric drive hydraulic mining excavator and the Power Agnostic 930E haul truck. The PC4000-11E delivers the powerful digging force operators need and expect from high-performance diesel machines while reducing emissions. The 930E is built on Komatsu’s modular power-agnostic platform that will allow for a transition from diesel to battery or even hydrogen fuel cell power sources. This innovative truck also supports dynamic charging and trolley assist options to reduce fuel consumption and emissions further.

During the show, Komatsu gave customers a firsthand look at two teleoperation advancements for its blasthole drills and mining dozers that can help drive mine safety, productivity and operational interoperability. These new features mark a significant step toward the future of remote-controlled equipment, allowing operators to manage heavy machinery from an off-site location.

Komatsu’s drill automation technology is designed to reduce operational variability, leading to improvements in blasthole quality and fragmentation through the precise execution of drill patterns. Customer benefits include more consistent production output, reduced machine wear from less experienced operators and improved downstream process efficiencies.

Teleoperation of a D375A-8 mining dozer used technology that integrates Modular ProVision





▶ VIDEO

Komatsu's new Power Agnostic 930E haul truck is built on its modular power-agnostic platform, empowering the transition from diesel to battery or even hydrogen fuel cell power sources.

machine guidance with automatic blade control. This offers precise and reliable remote operation, even in hazardous environments. The advanced system eliminates the need for operators to endure high-risk conditions, including high-vibration environments.

Standard machines geared toward high-production mining were also on display, including:

- GD955-7 motor grader with a standard 18-foot moldboard that's designed to build and maintain haul roads for truck fleets of 100 tons and up
- ZT44 blasthole drill that offers high reliability and production with purpose-built structures, an 800-horsepower engine and a large capacity dual-setting compressor that adapts to varying rock hardness conditions
- D475A-8 surface mining dozer that features a more reliable mainframe with twice the design life over previous models to help reduce maintenance costs and machine downtime

Simplified workflows

Komatsu unveiled its new Modular ecosystem, which builds on its DISPATCH fleet management system. This cutting-edge solution includes a set of interconnected platforms and products designed to simplify existing workflows while

creating a bold vision for the future of mine site optimization and data utilization.

"One of our customers' biggest challenges is being able to get the full value out of the data sets they own," said Jason Fletcher, Senior Vice President of Mining Technology Solutions at Komatsu. "The Modular ecosystem is that entry point for a mine operation to have one place to gather operational information for every activity that's going on across their mine site. It's our path forward to help optimize mining operations at the machine, mine site and enterprise levels."

To expand its artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities and help customers optimize their mining operations, Komatsu announced its intent to acquire digital solutions provider Octodots Analytics during MINExpo.

"Our ecosystem is designed to empower customers to optimize decision-making at the machine, mine site and enterprise levels," said Fletcher. "Octodots' expertise and solutions map perfectly to what we've created, and we are excited about the opportunities to incorporate their products and capabilities into our offering."

With a focus on long-term partnerships, Komatsu remains a trusted name in mining and is dedicated to advancing the industry through products, services and technological innovation. ■

Introducing demolition excavators

Four new Komatsu excavators boost reach and are easily customizable to a variety of demolition applications

Komatsu has four new demolition excavators in the North American market with the launch of its PC490HRD-11 high-reach demolition model and its PC290LC-11, PC360LC-11 and PC490LC-11 models with straight booms. The excavators have been successfully operating in the European market for more than 20 years, providing customers the opportunity to increase job site efficiency.

The PC490HRD-11 demolition excavator features the K100 boom change system that allows operators to quickly change the configuration from within the cab and without manually disconnecting either the hydraulic or electric lines, enabling operators to begin working within minutes of arriving at the job site and minimizing time for boom changes as the job progresses. The machine can reach up to 104 feet and includes a full demolition guarding package, excellent visibility from a 45-degree tilting cab, and an informative human/machine interface panel.

The PC290LC-11, PC360LC-11 and PC490LC-11 straight boom excavators boost reach, providing 22% to 26% more reach than standard excavators, with easy customization

that allows users to program up to 15 different tools. The machines come with factory-installed plus-two hydraulic attachment piping.

Heavy-duty guarding

The demolition excavators are built to tackle tough demolition jobs with robust protection elements like heavy-duty revolving frame and under guards, bucket cylinder guard, boom light protection guards, and reinforced attachment linkage.

Komatsu's additional product line of Lehnhoff quick couplers and Montabert demolition attachments can be paired with the excavators to further increase machine versatility. All attachments are distributed by the Komatsu Attachment Group.

"Komatsu understands that the demolition industry is a fast-growing and evolving segment that demands new product innovation," said Bruce Boebel, Director of Products and Services. "We are excited to be able to now provide this family of demolition excavator solutions in support of the industry, offering the ability to quickly customize for different working environments and provide versatility and efficiency at the job site." ■



Komatsu's family of demolition excavators is now available to North American customers.



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Designed for high production

HD465-10 and HD605-10 haul trucks offer high payload capacity and improved fuel economy

If you're aiming to boost production and lower operating costs when moving materials, check out Komatsu's new HD465-10 and HD605-10 mechanical haul trucks. These trucks are designed to help increase productivity and improve fuel efficiency in quarry, mining and aggregate applications.

The HD465-10 is a 60-ton rigid frame machine with a high payload capacity and efficient hauling capabilities. The HD605-10 is a 70-ton rigid frame machine designed for reliability and durability. Both trucks offer a tight turning radius for easy navigation on narrow haul roads and ergonomically designed cabin features for operator comfort during long shifts. With increased horsepower and high-strength steel for reduced operating weight, the machines are built to provide excellent speed on grade.

Additional features include a MacPherson-type independent front suspension that allows the vehicle to smoothly traverse uneven road surfaces, the ability to regulate fuel efficiency for lighter work with "economy" and "economy light"

modes, and control downhill descent with the automatic retard speed control function.

Enhanced operator platform

New operator features include hill start assist, throttle lock, a retractable sun visor and waiting brake. Beneficial maintenance elements include plastic resin wheel chocks, maintenance-free batteries, brake performance checks, and ground level Komatsu Oil and Wear Analysis (KOWA) sampling ports. A full LED light package delivers exceptional operator visibility.

"Komatsu is committed to developing equipment that supports our customers' needs and helps them be most effective at the job site," said Madeline Pearce, Product Marketing Manager. "The fuel efficiency and productivity benefits these products provide, combined with a number of operator-focused features, demonstrate that commitment. We are excited to provide these new models of haul trucks to support our customers across North America." ■

**All comparisons are to the previous Komatsu model(s) unless otherwise stated.*



The new Komatsu HD605-10 mechanical haul truck is a 70-ton rigid frame machine designed for reliability and durability.



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Montabert



Lehnhoff





2022 Komatsu PC210LC-11, A13450, PT33446-1, 2,749 hrs.



2023 Komatsu D51PX-24, 16126, J00849, 1,858 hrs.

Year/Make/Model	S/N	Equipment Number	Location	Hours
Articulated Truck				
2017 Komatsu HM400-5	10593	J00819	Nashville, TN	7,778
Compaction				
2023 HAMM HC 50i	H287.0103	J00823	Louisville, KY	173
2017 HAMM H 10i P	H2350038	J00833	Nashville, TN	4,191
2023 HAMM HC 130i	H254.0247	J00806	Louisville, KY	73
Dozers				
2017 Komatsu D39PXi-24	95443	BTE24608	Evansville, IN	3,279
2023 Komatsu D51PX-24	16126	J00849	Little Rock, AR	1,858
2024 Komatsu D51PX-24	B25493	BTP24N08	Paducah, KY	509
2020 Komatsu D51PXi-24	B20937	PT32674-1	Tupelo, MS	4,065
2023 Komatsu D61PX-24	B65880	PT32674-1	Nashville, TN	3,436
2020 Komatsu D61PXi-24	B61177	J00831	Louisville, KY	2,713
2023 Komatsu D61PXi-24	B66204	J00848	Nashville, TN	1,924
2023 Komatsu D61PXi-24	B66209	J00847	Nashville, TN	1,966
2023 Komatsu D61PXi-24	B66325	J00860	Louisville, KY	1,618
2023 Komatsu D65EX-18	96294	J00846	Nashville, TN	1,675
2022 Komatsu D71PX-24	70711	J00840	Indianapolis, IN	838
2023 Komatsu D71PX-24	71510	J00857	Louisville, KY	1,403
2021 Komatsu D71PXi-24	70300	J00825	Nashville, TN	3,197
Excavators				
2023 Komatsu PC88MR-11	C40346	BTF24419	Ft. Wayne, IN	1,070
2023 Komatsu PC130-11	92518	J00856	Corbin, KY	199
2022 Komatsu PC210LC-11	A13526	J00843	Springdale, AR	2,517
2022 Komatsu PC210LC-11	A13528	J00845	Springdale, AR	2,741
2022 Komatsu PC210LC-11	A13450	PT33446-1	Little Rock, AR	2,749
2022 Komatsu PC210LCi-11	A10022	BTP24N16	Paducah, KY	729
2023 Komatsu PC210LCi-11	A10099	PTB59403	Nashville, TN	1,233
2018 Komatsu PC238USLC-11	5138	BTN24909	Indianapolis, IN	4,308
2022 Komatsu PC240LC-11	A22735	J00854	Nashville, TN	2,056
2023 Komatsu PC290LC-11	A28611	J00830	Little Rock, AR	1,795
2023 Komatsu PC290LC-11	A28619	J00829	Little Rock, AR	1,821
2024 Komatsu PC360LC-11	A39881	BTN24908	Indianapolis, IN	492



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